



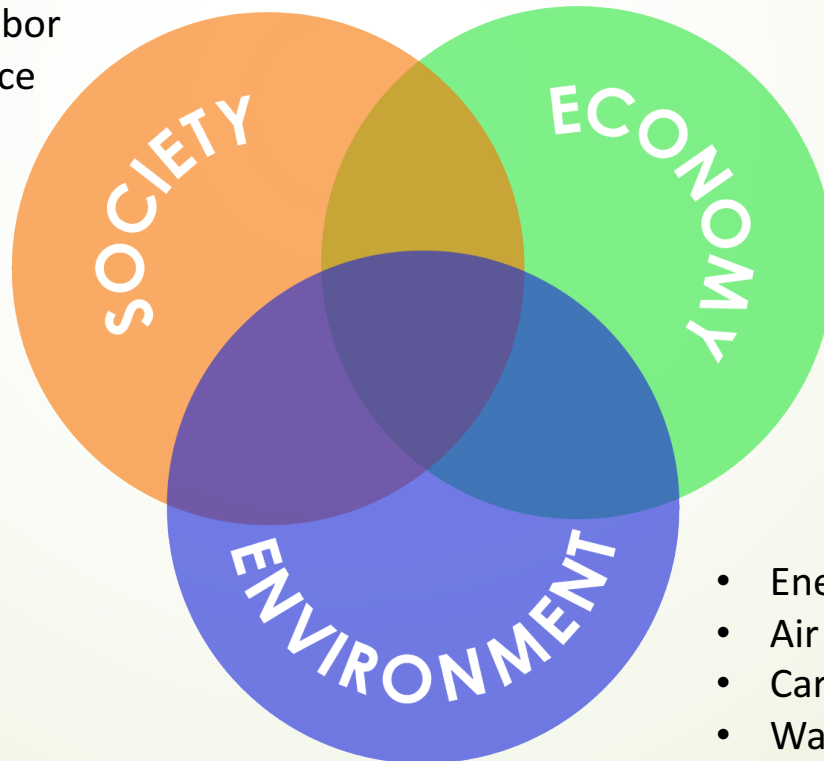
APGA 2017 HAMILTON, ONTARIO



What Does Sustainability Mean? 2

Development which meets the needs of current generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. – Bruntland Commission

- Employees/Labor
- Product/Service
- Impacts on People
- Community Development
- Ethics and Governance



- Revenue Growth
- Debt to Equity
- Efficiency
- Value to Society
- Jobs Created
- Innovation

- Energy
- Air
- Carbon
- Water
- Materials
- Resources
- Waste





Laurel Hill Group's Sustainability Mission Statement

Members of Laurel Hill Group's sustainability team created the following mission statement to guide the organizations' work around creating a sustainable future:

To embrace and implement strategies that positively exhibit our social, environmental and economic values in support of our families, employees and the community in perpetuity.



Land Conservation Plans in 2017

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- ▶ **Organic material reuse:** Planning reclamation and sorting site; **Project will save approximately \$7,000 annually once complete.**
- ▶ **Erosion reduction/native planting:** Planting at compost facility in fall 2017, continued work on Nature Sanctuary planting
- ▶ **Plant health:** Use app to track the health and progress of native plantings in various areas by the maintenance staff
- ▶ **Sustainable site certification:** Waiting for approval as first cemetery with Sustainable Sites certification in the world
- ▶ **Tree plans for two sites:** Once employee is hired, develop a tree plan for each location with sustainability considerations
- ▶ **Reduce salt use:** Testing using beet product as a pre-treat, looking at other options and total salt expense

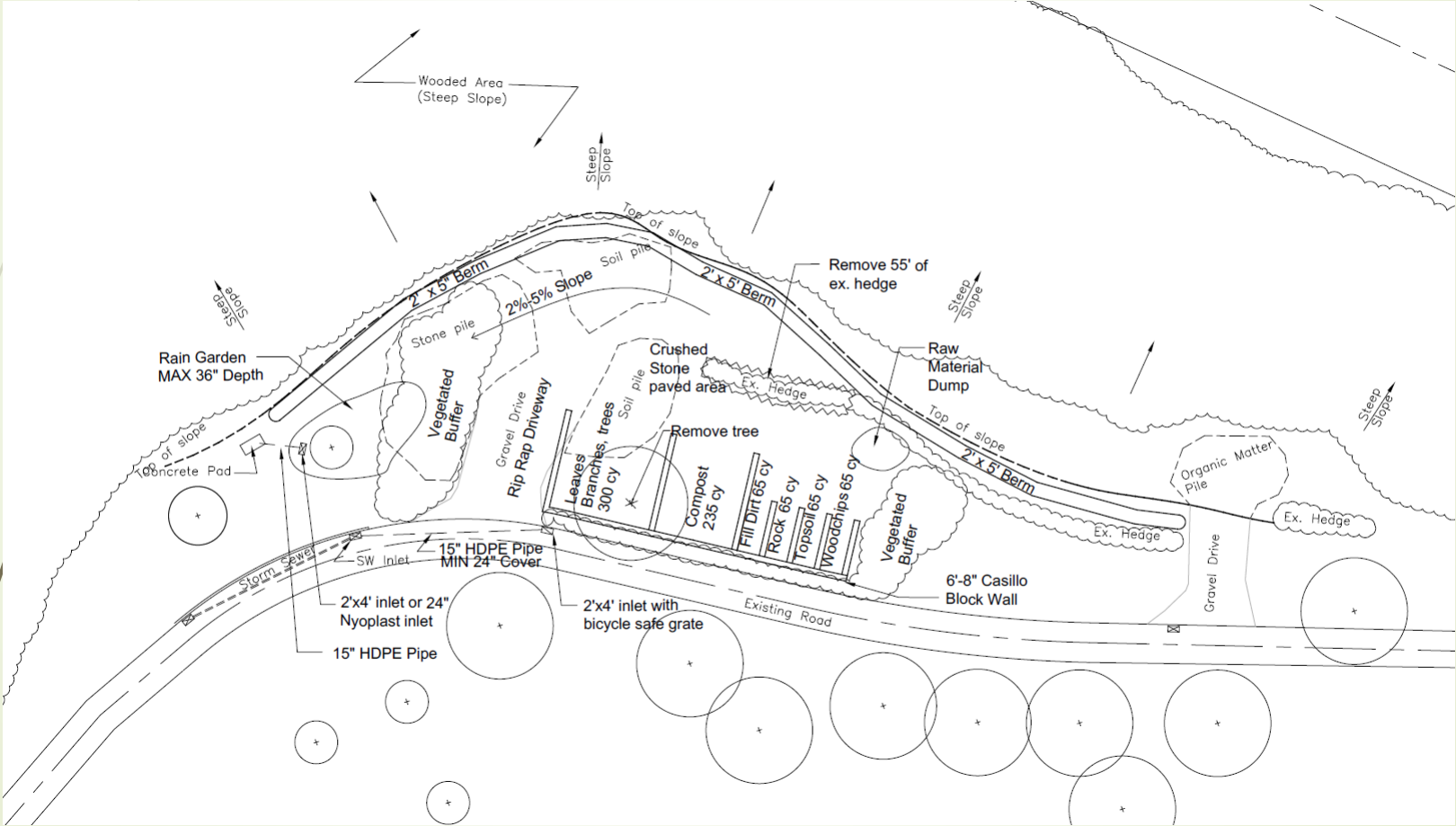


Implementation





Reclamation Site



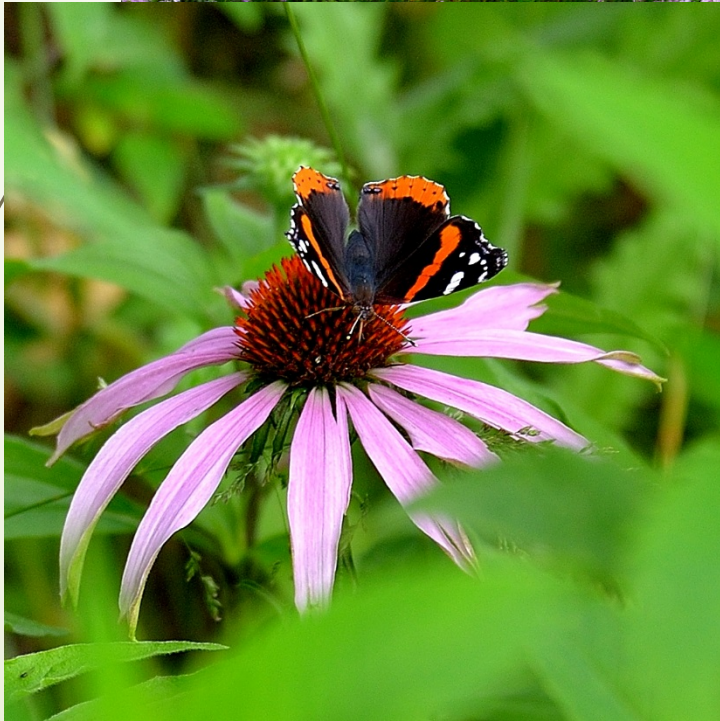
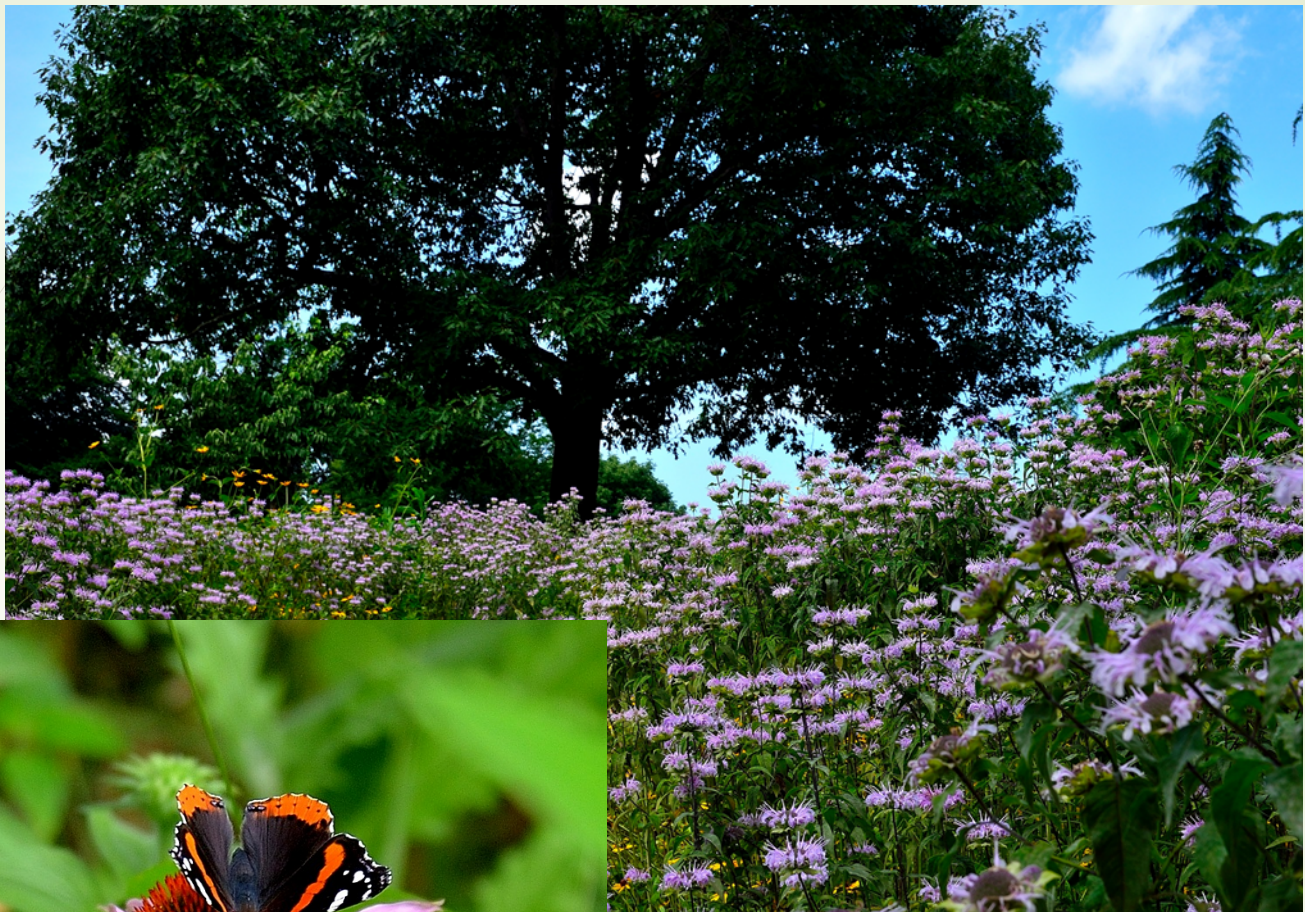




Nature's Sanctuary











Public Education Needed

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Nature's Sanctuary

Assisted Ecological Succession

Since 2008, Nature's Sanctuary has provided perpetual care in a natural setting. The first Green Burial Council certified natural burial ground in the Philadelphia area, Nature's Sanctuary offers green burial that meets and exceeds requirements with a unique site maintenance program that allows for a process of assisted ecological succession.

At each stage of the process, this site is maintained by a carefully designed management plan which promotes high quality native species that add value to the site as habitat, with minimal disturbance.

CLIMAX FOREST	SUCCESSIONAL FOREST	SUCCESSIONAL OLD FIELD	MEADOW
<p>Eventually the trees grow large and their canopies create full shade which causes grasses to be replaced with ground covers and shrubs. The site is now a CLIMAX FOREST.</p>	<p>As the trees expand, they begin to create a new environment called a SUCCESSIONAL FOREST. It is important to keep invasive species out of the site.</p>	<p>Small trees and shrubs begin to grow among the grasses to create a SUCCESSIONAL OLD FIELD with high species diversity.</p>	<p>The process begins with grasses, wildflowers and forbes in the form of a MEADOW, which restore the soil and prevent erosion.</p>
<p>Ecological succession is the process by which a site that has had its plant life removed, either by natural or manmade processes, naturally passes through a series of stages to return to supporting a native climax forest. As plots are filled on the site, they are transitioned from a maintained meadow state into the phases of succession.</p> <p>Old growth hardwood forests native to Eastern Pennsylvania are only possible when the land is left to heal and regenerate over a long time.</p>			



THE IMPORTANCE OF POLLINATORS

Most plants require pollinators to reproduce
Over 1200 food crops require pollinators. Honey Bees and other pollinators help produce between 1.2 and 5.4 billion dollars of revenue for farmers in the US per year.



THE LIFE OF A HONEY BEE

There can be up to 60,000 bees in a single hive, all produced by one **queen**, which can lay up to 1,500 eggs per day.



Most bees are **worker bees**, which are all female. Worker bees forage for nectar, make beeswax, build the honeycomb, feed the young, and defend the hive.

BEES



WELCOME TO THE APIARY !!!

The Western Honey Bee
Apis mellifera

**HONEY BEES ARE NON-AGGRESSIVE
PLEASE OBSERVE THE BEES FROM THIS
SIDE OF THE PLANTED BORDER.

NATIVE WILDFLOWERS

Produce nectar, which bees use for the main ingredient in honey.



Red Clover
Trifolium pratense

Look around - Do you see any of these flowers?

Wild Bergamot
Monarda fistulosa

THE STORY OF HONEY

HOW HONEY IS MADE BY BEES

- 1.) Flowering plants produce **nectar**.
- 2.) The bees **collect** the nectar, and store some of it in the hive for later.
- 3.) The bees **fan** the stored nectar with their wings and the nectar thickens into honey.
- 4.) A beekeeper harvests **surplus** honey and filters it for human consumption.

SOME BENEFITS OF EATING HONEY

- Eating local honey can improve allergies.
- Honey is a natural cough suppressant.
- Honey contains micronutrients, including enzymes, antioxidants, and minerals.
- Honey can improve calcium absorption.
- Honey is used in hair and skin products to improve skin and hair health.

